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unions in closely connected trades also figures largely as a cause of amalgamation.

The author regards as the chief weakness of the consolidated unions the difficulty of reconciling the conflicting interests of the various crafts included within the membership. It is already evident, too, that consolidation must lead at the same time to the decentralization of administrative authority through delegation and to the lessened participation of the general membership in the decision of policies. The movement toward united action and actual consolidation will continue, he concludes, both among the unions and the employers' associations, with the result that strikes will become fewer, but vaster, and will take on more and more the character of a class war.

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Vers le Salaire Minimum. By BARTHELEMY RAYNAUD. (Paris: L. Larose et L. Tenin. 1913. Pp. xi, 511. 14 fr.)

In the writing of this resumé of the theory and practice of the minimum wage, the author does not attempt to make any contribution of his own, nor does he push his analysis of the theories of others very far. Minimum wage theories he classifies under three heads: those of the modern "social catholicism," those of the socialists, and that of what he calls "social utilitarianism," which is his name for the Webbs. This portion of the book is a rapid sketch, and of little value to Americans. The bulk of the volume is devoted to a survey of the progress of the minimum wage in practice, and contains accounts of the insertion of minimum wage clauses in government contracts of various sorts and in trade union wage agreements, as well as of the establishment of the minimum wage in governmental industries by official order, and in private industries by compulsory arbitration or wage boards. Most of this information can readily be found by Americans in English or domestic works. Raynaud is obviously much under the influence of the Webbs, and accepts substantially their views concerning the place of the minimum wage in the theory of wages and the modes of establishing the minimum wage in practice. The volume contains in an appendix a useful transcript of laws and administrative orders, chiefly English and Australian, relating to the legal minimum wage.

A. N. HOLCOMBE.